

## *Learning to Live with Deer*

- ◆ Reducing deer impact to gardens and yards begins with education.
- ◆ Landscaping can be altered to reduce the level of deer browsing. The selection and placement of plants and shrubs has a significant impact on the extent of damage.
- ◆ These plants, shrubs and trees can only be called deer-resistant, not deer-proof. Deer taste buds vary geographically and seasonally.
- ◆ A deer-resistant garden is created simply by using plants, shrubs and trees that contain natural chemicals and have characteristics that deter deer from wanting to consume them.

## *Deer-Preferred Plants*

Black-eyed Susan	Lilies
Buttercup	Pansy
Crocus	Periwinkle
Dahlia	Rose
Daisy	Sedum
Daylily	Solomon's Seal
English Daisy	Sunflower
English Ivy	Trillium
Garden Phlox	Tulip
Geranium	Vegetables
Hibiscus	Violas
Hollyhock	Wallflower
Hosta	Yucca
Impatiens	

## *Deer-Preferred Shrubs and Trees*

Arborvitae	False Cedars
Balsam Fir	Fruit-bearing Trees
Clematis (vine)	(keep yard clean)
Deciduous Azalea	Hybrid Roses
Eastern Redbud	Hydrangea
Eastern White Pine	Japanese Yew
Eastern Yew	Norway Maple
English Yew	Saucer Magnolia

Backyard feeding of wildlife gives us the feeling of intimacy with nature and of doing something to help animals survive.

**It's not always best for the animals.**

**For more Information:**  
Rasmussen Woods  
Elk's Nature Center  
507-387-8585  
[pwpse@city.mankato.mn.us](mailto:pwpse@city.mankato.mn.us)



10 Civic Center Plaza  
Intergovernmental Center  
Mankato, MN 56001  
507-387-8600  
[www.ci.mankato.mn.us](http://www.ci.mankato.mn.us)



# *Living with* **DEER**

**PROTECTING  
YOUR GARDEN**

**A PRO-SOLUTION  
COMMUNITY EFFORT**





# Living with DEER

- ◆ Deer Resistant Plants ◆ Exclusion ◆ Fencing ◆
- ◆ Repellents ◆ Scare Devices ◆

## Books:

### *Deer-proofing your Yard and Garden*

by Rhonda Massingham Hart,  
1997 Story Books

### *Wild Neighbors: The Humane Approach to Living with Wildlife*

Humane Society of the United States  
Edited by John Hadidian, Guy R. Hodge, John W. Grandy, 1997  
Fulcrum Publishing

## Websites:

[www.deerplants.html](http://www.deerplants.html)

[www.deerrepellents.com](http://www.deerrepellents.com)

[www.deerxlandscape.com](http://www.deerxlandscape.com)

[www.fcgardens.com](http://www.fcgardens.com)

[www.mydeergarden.com](http://www.mydeergarden.com)

[www.seedsource.com](http://www.seedsource.com)

## Resources:

### **Benness Gardens**

6974 Upper York Road  
New Hope, PA 18938  
800-753-4660  
FAX 215-477-9429  
[www.bennessgardens.com](http://www.bennessgardens.com)

No endorsement of specific brands or any product is implied or intended by inclusion or exclusion in this brochure. This brochure is for informational purposes only.

### **Budcaps, Plastic Tubes and Tree Wraps**

Earl May Seed and Nursery Co.  
208 North Elm  
Shenandoah, LA 51603  
712-246-1020  
[www.earlmay.com](http://www.earlmay.com)

### **Deer Off**

58 High Valley Way  
Stamford, CT 06903-2714  
800-DEER-OFF  
FAX 203-968-2882  
[www.deeroff.com](http://www.deeroff.com)

### **Deer-Resistant Landscape Nursery**

3200 Sunstone Court  
Clare, MI 48617  
800-595-3650  
[www.deerxlandscape.com](http://www.deerxlandscape.com)

### **Havahart #5250 Electronic**

**Deer Repellent**  
(800) 800-1819  
[www.havahart.com](http://www.havahart.com)

### **Natural Armor**

866-67ARMOR  
[www.naturalarmor.com](http://www.naturalarmor.com)

### **Scarecrow Motion Activated Sprinkler**

Weitech Company  
800-343-2659  
[www.scatmat.com](http://www.scatmat.com)

### **Wireless Deer Fence**

PO Box 5604  
Bloomington, IN 47407-5604  
866-GOT-DEER  
(866-468-3337)  
[www.wirelessdeerfence.com](http://www.wirelessdeerfence.com)

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## Mankato City Ordinance

### Section 9.76 of the Mankato City Code

## Prohibition

No person shall feed or allow the feeding of deer within any area of the City of Mankato. For the purpose of this section, feeding shall mean provision of one-half cubic foot or more of grain, fruit, vegetables, nuts, hay or other edible material, either on the ground or at a height of less than five (5) feet above the ground, in a manner that attracts deer on a regular basis. Living food sources such as fruit trees and other vegetation, shall not be considered as deer feeding.

## Exceptions

This prohibition shall not apply to veterinarians, city animal control officers and park maintenance staff or county, state or federal game officials who in the course of their duties have deer in their custody or under their management.

## Keys to Success

- ◆ Preventing deer damage before it starts is essential rather than trying to interrupt an established pattern. Apply repellents before bud-break and as new growth appears.
- ◆ Plan to use several deterrent methods. Alternate repellents and rotate methods throughout the season.
- ◆ Change your strategies before deer adapt to them to keep deer confused.

## Yard Fencing

- ◆ Fencing can prevent a deer from turning the garden and yard into a deer buffet.
- ◆ When wanting to completely exclude deer from the yard, fencing is the best option.
- ◆ The initial cost may be high; however, results are long-lasting and worth the investment.
- ◆ Camouflage unattractive fencing with "sacrificial" plants of lesser interest to deer. Deer will crawl, squeeze under and between fencing and can jump upwards of an eight foot fence. Fencing should be taut, secure and checked regularly.

## Repellents & Scare Devices

- ◆ Deer are creatures of habit. Anything out of the ordinary will intimidate deer.
- ◆ Repellents are chemicals or other substances that are meant to disrupt deer browsing because of the substances rancid odor or bad taste.
- ◆ Scare devices are also used to deter deer, however, they are most effective when used with repellents.





Deer Browse — Untreated Hosta



Deer Highways are created by habit. You will need to alter deer paths to protect damaged plants and trees.



Deer-resistant plants



Treated Hosta

Deer rely on their sense of smell to determine what is safe and desirable to eat. A wide variety of strong odors confuse deer. A scent barrier is created by using a variety of strongly aromatic plants, shrubs and herbs throughout the garden.

# Living with DEER

## Aromatics for Camouflage Gardening

Catnip	Garlic	Oregano	Santolina
Chives	Lavender	Rosemary	Spearmint
Dill	Onion	Sage	Yarrow

## Deer-Resistant Shrubs and Trees

Barberry	Ginkgo	Russian Olive
Boxwood	Hollywood Juniper	Shrubby Cinquefoil
Butterfly Bush	Japanese Garden Juniper	Spirea
Colorado Spruce	Lilac	Sugar Maple
Corkscrew Willow	Moonglow Juniper	Viburnum
Cornelian Cherry Dogwood	Mountain Laurel	Witchhazel
European Beech	Red-osier Dogwood	
Forsythia	River Birch	

## PLANTS LEAST LIKELY TO BE CONSUMED OR SERIOUSLY DAMAGED BY DEER

Alyssum	Coreopsis	Jacob's Ladder	Russian Sage
Anise Hyssop	Crown Vetch	Joe Pye Weed	Siberian Bugloss
Aster	Daffodil	Lady's Mantle	Snapdragon
Beebalm	Dame's Rocket	Lamb's Ear	Spiderwort
Bigleaf Ligularia	Dead Nettle	Larkspur	Spike Gayfeather
Blanket Flower	Dusty Miller	Lily of the Valley	Spurge
Bleeding Heart	Evening Primrose	Lilyturf	Stonecrop
Blue Salvia	False Indigo	Lobelia	Sweet Cicely
Boltonia	Ferns	Lupine	Sweet William
Bugleweed	Forget-me-not	Marigold	Sweet Woodruff
Butterfly Weed	Four O'clock	Mayapple	Tiger Lily
California Poppy	Foxglove	Mint	Trumpet Vine
Catmint	Garden Croton	Morning Glory	Verbena
Chicory	Goatsbeard	Mullein	Wax Begonia
Christmas Fern	Goldenrod	Oriental Poppy	Wild Ginger
Cinnamon Fern	Heliotrope	Ornamental Grass	Yarrow
Coleus	Hellebore	Parsley	Yellow Archangel
Columbine	Hen and Chicks	Pennyroyal	Zinnia
Coneflower	Iris	Peony	
Coralbells	Jack-in-the-pulpit	Perennial Blueflax	

(In the book *Deer-proofing your Yard and Garden* by Rhonda Massingham Hart, there is a list of roses that "rise to the occasion.")